

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed H.R. 3850, Surface Transportation Extension Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1853–S1899

Measures Introduced: Five bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2142–2146, and S. Res. 306. **Page S1891**

Measures Passed:

9/11 Commission Extension: Senate passed S. 2136, to extend the final report date and termination date of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, to provide additional funding for the Commission. **Page S1856**

Surface Transportation Extension Act: Senate passed H.R. 3850, to provide an extension of highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a law reauthorizing the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S1884**

Protection of Lawful Commerce In Arms Act: Senate continued consideration of S. 1805, to prohibit civil liability actions from being brought or continued against manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or importers of firearms or ammunition for damages resulting from the misuse of their products by others, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S1860–73**

Pending:

Hatch (for Campbell) Amendment No. 2623, to amend title 18, United States Code, to exempt qualified current and former law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns. **Page S1860**

Kennedy Amendment No. 2619, to expand the definition of armor piercing ammunition and to require the Attorney General to promulgate standards for the uniform testing of projectiles against body armor. **Page S1860**

Craig (for Frist/Craig) Amendment No. 2625, to regulate the sale and possession of armor piercing ammunition. **Page S1860**

Levin Amendment No. 2631, to exempt any civil action against a person from the provisions of the bill if the gross negligence or reckless conduct of the person proximately caused death or injury. **Pages S1864–65, S1867–71**

Warner Amendment No. 2624, to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system. **Page S1865**

Lautenberg Amendment No. 2632, to require that certain notifications occur whenever a query to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System reveals that a person listed in the Violent Gang and Terrorist Organization File is attempting to purchase a firearm. **Pages S1871–72**

Lautenberg Amendment No. 2633, to exempt lawsuits involving injuries to children from the definition of qualified civil liability action. **Pages S1872–73**

A unanimous-consent agreement reached providing for further consideration of the bill at 12 noon, on Monday, March 1, 2004, with four hours for debate; further, at 4 p.m., Senator Bingaman will be recognized to offer an amendment, with a vote to occur thereon at 5 p.m. **Page S1898**

International Fisheries Reauthorization Act—Referral Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement reached providing that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2584, to provide for the conveyance to the Utrok Atoll local government of a decommissioned National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ship, and the bill then be referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. **Page S1897**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

1 Marine Corps nomination in the rank of general.
Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, Marine
Corps. **Pages S1898–99**

Measures Referred: **Pages S1890–91**

Measures Placed on Calendar: **Page S1891**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1891–92**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S1892–95

Additional Statements: **Page S1890**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S1892**

Text of S. 1072, as Previously Passed: (See Record
of 2–26–04) **Pages S1702–S1848**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:32 a.m., and
adjourned at 4:41 p.m., until 12 noon, on Monday,
March 1, 2004. (For Senate's program, see the re-
marks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on
page S1898.)

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

The House was not in session today. The House
will meet on Monday, March 1, in pro forma session.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

CONGRESSIONAL PROGRAM AHEAD

Week of March 1 through March 6, 2004

Senate Chamber

On *Monday*, at 12 noon, Senate will resume con-
sideration of S. 1805, Protection of Lawful Com-
merce in Arms Act, with four hours for debate; fur-
ther, at 4 p.m., Senator Bingaman will be recognized
to offer an amendment, with a vote to occur thereon
at 5 p.m.

On *Tuesday*, at 9:30 a.m., Senate will continue
consideration of the bill, with votes on or in relation
to certain pending amendments, including a vote on
final passage of the bill.

During the balance of the week, Senate may con-
sider any other cleared legislative and executive busi-
ness.

Senate Committees

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: March
4, Subcommittee on Marketing, Inspection, and Product
Promotion, to hold oversight hearings to examine the de-
velopment of a national animal identification plan, 2
p.m., SH–216.

Committee on Appropriations: March 1, Subcommittee on
Defense, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2005 for the Department of De-
fense, 10:30 a.m., SD–192.

March 2, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State,
and the Judiciary, to hold hearings to examine proposed
budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Department
of Commerce, 10 a.m., SD–192.

March 2, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, to hold
hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal
year 2005 for science and technology programs, informa-
tion analysis, and infrastructure protection, 10 a.m.,
SD–124.

March 3, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Devel-
opment, to hold hearings to examine proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2005 for the Department of Ener-
gy's Office of Science, Office of Nuclear Energy, Science
and Technology, and Office of Energy Efficiency and Re-
newable Energy, 10 a.m., SD–138.

March 3, Subcommittee on District of Columbia, to
hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for
fiscal year 2005 for the government of the District of Co-
lumbia, focusing on Court Services, Offender Supervision
Agency, and the Public Defender Service, 10:30 a.m.,
SD–124.

March 3, Subcommittee on Defense, to hold hearings
to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005
for the Department of Defense, 10:30 a.m., SD–192.

March 4, Subcommittee on Interior, to hold hearings
to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005
for the Department of Energy, 9:30 a.m., SD–124.

March 4, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, and Education, to hold hearings to examine pro-
posed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the De-
partment of Education, 9:30 a.m., SD–192.

March 4, Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Inde-
pendent Agencies, to hold hearings to examine proposed
budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Department
of Veterans Affairs, 10 a.m., SD–628.

March 4, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, to hold
hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal
year 2005 for the General Accounting Office, the Gov-
ernment Printing Office, and the Congressional Budget
Office, 11 a.m. SD–116.

Committee on Armed Services: March 2, to hold hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal 2005 and the future years defense program, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

March 2, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine active component, Reserve component and civilian personnel programs, in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005, 2:30 p.m., SR-232A.

March 3, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities, to hold hearings to examine the role of defense science and technology in the global war on terrorism and in preparing for emerging threats in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005, 9:30 a.m., SR-325.

March 3, Subcommittee on SeaPower, to hold hearings to examine future Navy and Marine Corps capabilities and requirements in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005 and the future years defense program, 2 p.m., SR-232A.

March 4, Full Committee, to hold open and closed hearings to examine the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2005, focusing on military strategy and operational requirements (closed in SH-219), 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

March 4, Subcommittee on Personnel, to hold hearings to examine compensation, benefits, and health care for active and Reserve military personnel and their families in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005, 2:30 p.m., SR-222.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: March 2, to resume hearings to examine current investigations and regulatory actions regarding the mutual fund industry, focusing on fund operations and governance, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: March 2, Subcommittee on Competition, Foreign Commerce, and Infrastructure, to hold hearings to examine the rise of obesity in children, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

March 3, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the impact of climate change, 9:30 a.m., SR-253.

March 3, Subcommittee on Science, Technology, and Space, to hold hearings to examine impact of abortion on women, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

March 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the nomination of Rhonda Keenum, of Mississippi, to be Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Services, Linda Morrison Combs, of North Carolina, to be an Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs and Chief Financial Officer, Department of Transportation, W. Douglas Buttrey, of Tennessee, and Francis Mulvey, of Maryland, both to be a Member of the Surface Transportation Board, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: March 2, to hold hearings to examine the President's proposed fiscal year 2005 budget for the Forest Service, 10 a.m., SD-366.

March 3, Subcommittee on Public Lands and Forests, to hold hearings to examine S. 1420, to establish terms and conditions for use of certain Federal land by outfitters

and to facilitate public opportunities for the recreational use and enjoyment of such land, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

March 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine the Energy Information Administration (EIA) Annual Energy Outlook 2004 forecast regarding the supply, demand, and price projections for oil, natural gas, nuclear, coal and renewable sources, including commercial and market perspectives on the state of oil and natural gas markets, 10 a.m., SD-366.

March 4, Subcommittee on Energy, to hold hearings to examine new nuclear power generation in the United States, 2:30 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: March 3, to hold oversight hearings to examine grants management within the Environmental Protection Agency, 9:30 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance: March 3, to hold hearings to examine health insurance challenges, 9:30 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: March 2, to hold oversight hearings to examine certain foreign assistance programs, 9 a.m., SD-419.

March 2, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine North Korea's nuclear situation, 3 p.m., SH-216.

March 3, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine building operational readiness in Foreign Affairs agencies, 9:30 a.m., SH-216.

March 4, Full Committee, business meeting to consider S. 2096, to promote a free press and open media through the National Endowment for Democracy, S. 2127, to build operational readiness in civilian agencies, and an original bill, entitled Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2005, to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and international broadcasting activities for fiscal year 2005, for the Peace Corps for fiscal year 2005 through 2007, and for foreign assistance programs for fiscal year 2005, 9:30 a.m., SD-419.

March 4, Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs, to hold hearings to examine the state of democracy in Hong Kong, 2:30 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Governmental Affairs: March 1, Financial Management, the Budget, and International Security, to hold hearings to examine the management, investment, and oversight policies of the federal government's Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) to ensure the integrity of federal employees' retirement savings, 11 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: March 2, Subcommittee on Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services, to hold hearings to examine suicide prevention and youth, 10 a.m., SD-430.

March 4, Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine issues for reauthorization of the higher education act, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on Indian Affairs: March 3, to hold oversight hearings to examine the status of the completion of the National Museum of the American Indian, 10 a.m., SR-485.

Committee on the Judiciary: March 3, Subcommittee on Constitution, Civil Rights and Property Rights, to hold hearings to examine national implications of the Massachusetts Goodridge decision and the judicial invalidation of traditional marriage laws, 10 a.m., SD-226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: March 2, to hold hearings to examine the final report of the Department of Veterans' Affairs' Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) Commission, 2:15 p.m., SR-418.

March 4, Full Committee, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentations of the Non-Commissioned Officers Association, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Jewish War Veterans, and the Blinded Veterans Association, 10 a.m., 345 CHOB.

Select Committee on Intelligence: March 2, closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

March 4, Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

United States Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control: March 4, to hold hearings to examine the current status of federal efforts to coordinate and combat money laundering and terrorist financing, 2 p.m., SD-215.

House Chamber

To be announced.

House Committees

Committee on Agriculture, March 3, to consider Committee's Budget Views and Estimates for Fiscal Year 2005 for submission to the Committee on the Budget, 10 a.m., 1300 Longworth.

Committee on Appropriations, March 3, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies, on Inspector General, 9:30 a.m., 2362A Rayburn.

March 3, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, Judiciary and Related Agencies, on Secretary of State, 2 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

March 3, Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies, on Forest Service, 10 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

March 3, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, on P-16 Education Systems, 10:15 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

March 3, Subcommittee on Military Construction, on Family Housing Privatization, 9:30 a.m., and on Central Command Budget Request, 3 p.m., B-300 Rayburn.

March 3, Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury and Independent Agencies, on Secretary of Transportation, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

March 3, Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies, on Department of Housing and Urban Development, 9:30 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

March 4, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies, on Marketing and Regulatory Programs, 9:30 a.m., 2362A Rayburn.

March 4, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, Judiciary and Related Agencies, on Federal Judiciary, 10 a.m., H-309 Capitol, and on Attorney General, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

March 4, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, on Bureau of Reclamation, 10 a.m., 2362B Rayburn.

March 4, Subcommittee on Homeland Security, on Secretary of Homeland Security, 10 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

March 4, Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies, on Fish and Wildlife Service, 10 a.m., B-308 Rayburn.

March 4, Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies, on Secretary of Health and Human Services, 10 a.m., 2358 Rayburn.

March 4, Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs, HUD and Independent Agencies, on EPA, 1:30 p.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, March 3, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization budget request for the Department of Defense, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

March 3, Subcommittee on Projection Forces, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization budget request—Department of Defense Capabilities for Conducting Conventional Long-range Strike Operations, 2 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

March 3, Subcommittee on Total Force, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization budget request on Military Resale and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Programs, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

March 4, Subcommittee on Readiness, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization budget request—Military Construction Budget Request for the Programs of the Department of the Army and the Department of the Navy, 2 p.m., 2118 Rayburn.

March 4, Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization budget request—Aviation Industrial Base and Department of Defense Rotorcraft Investment Programs, 9 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

March 4, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, hearing on the Fiscal Year 2005 National Defense Authorization Budget Request—Department of Defense Responsibilities in Homeland Defense and Homeland Security Missions, 3 p.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Committee on the Budget, March 3, Members' Day, 2 p.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and the Workforce, March 3, hearing entitled "No Child Left Behind: Improving Results for Children with Disabilities," 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, March 4, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Prescription Drug Monitoring: Strategies to Promote Treatment and Deter Prescription Drug Abuse," 1 p.m., 2123 Rayburn.

March 4, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "A Review of Security DOE Nuclear Facilities and the Implementation of the Revised Design Basis Threat," 11 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Financial Services, March 3, Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Insurance, and Government Sponsored Enterprises, hearing on H.R. 3574, Stock Option Accounting Reform Act, 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

March 4, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "Oversight of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation," 10 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Government Reform, March 2, Subcommittee on Criminal Justice, Drug Policy and Human Resources, hearing entitled “Andean Counterdrug Initiative,” 3 p.m., 2203 Rayburn.

March 3, Subcommittee on Government Efficiency and Financial Management, oversight hearing on “Financial Report of the U.S. Government for Fiscal Year 2003,” 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

March 3, Subcommittee on Technology, Information Policy, Intergovernmental Relations and the Census, hearing entitled “Federal Information Technology Investment Management, Strategic Planning, and Performance Measurement: 60 Billion Reasons Why,” 1 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

March 4, full Committee, hearing entitled “America’s New Welcome Mat: A Look at the Goals and Challenges of the US-VISIT Program,” 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

March 5, hearing entitled “Public Confidence, Down the Drain: The Federal Role in Ensuring Safe Drinking Water in the District of Columbia,” 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on International Relations, March 3, Subcommittee on Europe, hearing on United States Priorities in Europe, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

March 4, full Committee, hearing on The United States Government Strategy for Fighting HIV/AIDS: Implementation of Public Law 108–25, 10:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on the Judiciary, March 2, Subcommittee on Constitution, oversight hearing on the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, 1 p.m., 2141 Rayburn.

March 4, Subcommittee on Immigration, Border Security, and Claims, oversight hearing on Alien Removal Under “Operation Predator,” 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Resources, March 3, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, oversight hearing entitled “Minerals and Energy: Outsourcing American Jobs Overseas,” 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Rules, March 2, to consider the following: H.R. 3752, Commercial Space Launch Amendments Act of 2004; and H.R. 1561, United States Patent and Trademark Fee Modernization Act of 2003, 5:30 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Science, March 3, hearing to Review the Hydrogen Fuel and FreedomCAR Initiatives, 2 p.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, March 4, Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, oversight hearing on the U.S. Coast Guard and Federal Maritime Commission Fiscal Year 2005 Budget Requests, and on the Coast Guard Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005, 11 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, March 4, to mark up Committee’s Budget Views and Estimates for Fiscal Year 2005 for submission to the Committee on the Budget; followed by a hearing on the President’s Fiscal Year 2005 Budget for the Department of Labor, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, March 3, executive, hearing on Department of Defense Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance, 10 a.m., H–405 Capitol.

March 3, Subcommittee on Technical and Tactical Intelligence, executive, hearing on Enabling Information Sharing Across the Intelligence Community, 1 p.m., H–405 Capitol.

March 4, full Committee, executive, hearing on Terror Threats, 10 a.m., and, executive, hearing on Detainee Information Update, 1 p.m., H–405 Capitol.

March 5, executive, hearing on Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction, 9 a.m., H–405 Capitol.

Select Committee on Homeland Security, March 3, Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness and Response, hearing entitled “Department of Homeland Security Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate Fiscal Year 2005 Budget,” 10:30 a.m., 1302 Longworth.

March 4, Subcommittee on Intelligence and Counterterrorism and the Subcommittee on Infrastructure and Border Security, joint hearing entitled “The Department of Homeland Security’s Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Budget Proposal for Fiscal Year 2005,” 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Joint Meetings: March 4, Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, to hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs to examine the legislative presentations of the Non-Commissioned Officers Association, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Jewish War Veterans, and the Blinded Veterans Association, 10 a.m., 345 CHOB.

Joint Economic Committee: March 5, to hold joint hearings to examine the employment situation for February, 9:30 a.m., SD–562.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

12 noon, Monday, March 1

Senate Chamber

Program for Monday: Senate will resume consideration of S. 1805, Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act, with four hours for debate; further, at 4 p.m., Senator Bingaman will be recognized to offer an amendment, with a vote to occur thereon at 5 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

12 noon, Monday, March 1

House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.



Congressional Record

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